



**ARTS TASK FORCE  
MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 7, 2018 6:00 P.M.  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING I, ROOM 300  
50 E. CIVIC CENTER DRIVE, GILBERT, AZ 85296**

**ARTS TASK FORCE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Evgeniya Barabasz-Lynn  
Cherie Scott  
Jean Smith

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Robert Carmona, Interim Parks and Rec. Director  
John Kennedy, Parks and Recreation Manager  
Ryan Blair, CIP Supervisor, Engineering

**TASK FORCE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

David Gotlieb  
Sandra Reynolds

**STANDING AGENDA ITEMS**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** John Kennedy called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** John Kennedy called the roll and a quorum was present.
3. **COMMUNICATION FROM CITIZENS PRESENT:** Members of the public may comment on matters not on the agenda. The response is limited to responding to criticism, asking staff to review a matter commented upon, or asking that a matter be put on a future agenda. There were no communications from citizens.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

4. **None.**

**PRESENTATIONS**

5. **Welcome:** Robert Carmona is the Deputy Director for Parks and Recreation and is currently also serving as Interim Director for the department. He wanted the Arts Task Force to meet with staff outside of the Parks and Recreation Board to review the process for the Bridge in detail and to have the opportunity for more individual conversation with the design team. When the design portion of this project moves forward, the Arts Task Force will have more of a chance to provide input separate from the Parks Board and will also provide updates to the Parks Board. He invited Ryan Blair to outline the multi-year process for the Bridge project.
6. **Project Overview:** Ryan Blair is the CIP Supervisor for the Engineering Department overseeing street transportation projects. He provided an information sheet on the specifics of the Ocotillo Road improvement project. The FY19 money allocated for this project has been carried forward from prior years and has been set aside for the assessment phase of the Bridge project. Part of this phase is essentially a mission for information and staff has reached out to the Arts Task Force and the Parks and Recreation Board to collect ideas on theming and what the Bridge could look like. At the previous joint meeting, both of those Boards voted to narrow down the themes for the Bridge. Nothing is being designed at this time as we are only assessing the aesthetic possibilities for the Bridge. The next steps will be to take those themes to the public to further narrow it down. The project will then be shelved until FY2022. The large price tag of this project requires approval of funding through a bond process, which is set for FY2022. In 2021, staff will again reach out to the Arts Task Force and Parks Board to start work on the design of the Bridge itself. That is the point where we will be seeking out architects and other experts for the design. All of the ideas and input from the Boards as

well as from the public and schools will be gathered in preparation for the design process in 2022. Title 34 requires that anything over \$500,000 needs to be solicited through a Request for Qualifications (RFQ). A firm will be hired completely off qualifications and not price. The RFQ will be advertised in the newspaper, there will be an interview process, and a selection will be made based on qualifications. The selected firm will be advised of the scope of work, consisting of the Bridge and tying into two major arterial roadways. There will be negotiations on the price and then the contract will go to Council for approval. Typically, a project will go through 30%, 60%, 95%, and 100% design plans. At each of those milestones, the team will meet with the various committees and boards to review the progress and make sure the aesthetics of the plans are pleasing to the group. By that time, there may be different members of the group. As of now, the plan is to select one or two themes to move forward with once we reach the design phase.

Mr. Carmona reviewed the process for the Regional Park as an example. Kimley-Horn was selected to do the master plan process and conducted community outreach meetings. The Department put out the RFQ and a different designer, Dig Studios, was chosen. As a result, the Park looks a bit different than the original master plan. During their outreach process, Kimley-Horn collected a list of the different types of amenities that the public and other groups were interested in for the Park. We may be able to use some of those same themes here to determine what items the Arts Task Force would be interested in associated with the Bridge. Those items can be documented in the assessment now so that when we get to the design phase they are not lost.

Mr. Blair advised that when this assessment phase began, the funding was not set for 2022, but was closer. Due to the amount of the bond and the timing of when can go out for bonds, that was pushed out to 2022. It may seem somewhat premature now, but at the time the assessment phase started, it was not.

#### **Questions/Comments:**

Cherie Scott asked whether the RFQ will only go out to engineering companies who build bridges or will there be an opportunity in that process for a call to artists for certain components. She noted in the Light Rail process, there were RFQs for artists.

Mr. Blair explained that 90% of this Bridge will be the structure, and we will be seeking a structural firm that can design and construct the Bridge. We will provide direction to the design engineer in the scope of work, and they may solicit subs for artistic components. That would not need to be solicited separately.

Mr. Carmona stated the overall design is going on now for the Regional Park, but there are components within the Park that are being designed by other companies or subcontractors, such as the playground and splash pad. Those components are still within the main contract with the design and construction team. It would be a similar process for the artistic components of the Bridge.

Mr. Blair stated other subs would be brought in with the expertise to focus on those artistic elements. Initially, we need to have the right engineers in place for the structural portions of the project.

Evgeniya Barabasz-Lynn asked about the outreach to the schools for ideas or to participate in the art elements.

Mr. Blair explained that is happening now. Public outreach is a major component to such a project. As part of the public outreach, we are including the school boards as well as MYAC (Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee) to go over the theming, gather feedback and ideas, as well as conduct a vote on the themes. The Town's Digital Media team will conduct an online survey on those aspects of the project. We just conducted a similar survey for another project and received over 300 votes in one weekend. We are reaching out to the school boards in the vicinity of the park, as they will be the most affected. He would not be surprised if there were some form of assessment again when we reach the design phase. The public outreach will be conducted over the next 30 days at least, and it will be on the Town's website in the next few weeks, allowing 30 days to gather information.

John Kennedy noted in the last joint Board meeting, there was a vote which narrowed it down to four themes, and during this next public process, we hope to further narrow that down to two. All of those outreach results

will be presented to both the Arts Task Force and the Parks Board, and then it will be tabled until the design phase, depending on when that funding will be available.

Mr. Blair stated that there may be an opportunity to move up the design phase if Council decides to fund it without a bond fund. Due to the price tag, the construction will need to be funded through a bond.

- 7. Wrap up – Next Steps:** John Kennedy reiterated the public outreach process with the results coming back to both Boards, hopefully in late September. The project will then be shelved until funding is available for the design phase.

Mr. Carmona stated in the next meeting, we will discuss those items the Task Force would like to see in the future design and capture that as part of the document for future reference. We want to make sure your volunteer time is worthwhile during this first phase. He noted that the Gilbert Regional Park is designed with an artistic theme. The goal is to make sure there is good flow throughout the 272 acres with a defined experience in each section.

The Arts Task Force was thanked for their input as well as their passion regarding arts in the community. John Kennedy will be in touch with the group regarding the date for the next meeting.

On a side note, John Kennedy advised that three more art benches are planned in the Heritage District. Amanda Elliott in Economic Development is getting ready to put out a call for artists with a stipend of \$1,000. Council would need to direct this group to be involved specifically. Instead, Ms. Elliott will reach out to have some members participate in the RFP process regarding how to select artists.

## **STANDING AGENDA ITEMS**

- 8. None.**

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

- 9. None.**

## **CONCLUSION**

- 10. MOTION TO ADJOURN:** Cherie Scott moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jean Smith. All voted in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

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John Kennedy, Parks and Recreation Manager

(TE: 14082507)